

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here this morning to talk about during the last few weeks I've been back in my district doing America Speaking Out events and listening to people and talking with people about what their issues are and sharing with me what we should be doing here in Washington, D.C.

In my district, unemployment is the number one issue like it is across the country. And not just hearing from people looking for jobs but talking to people who want to provide jobs. And they are concerned about the tax increases that could be coming with the expiration of the tax cuts.

And one of the concerns that we heard Secretary Geithner talk about this weekend, Madam Speaker, is that the taxes could increase on those making \$250,000 or more, which we know half of that runs through small businesses. So I'm talking to a lot of small business owners who are afraid of taxes because they want to grow their business and hire people and put them to work.

JOB CREATION POLICY

(Mr. WALZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, perhaps my career as a public schoolteacher and having survived 20 years of the high school lunchroom makes me more optimistic than some of my colleagues in here—the idea of the trust that I have in our young people and in this country to overcome any adversities we see.

This weekend, I was out in Winona, Minnesota, at Peerless Chain Company, the number one producer of chain in this country, from tying down our jet fighters on aircraft carriers to providing the chains and the booms protecting the gulf coast. This is an American company who's standing with me in making sure that we get our provisions here, that don't extend long-range plans to outsource jobs, to allow people to take tax cuts to end jobs overseas but to keep them here in America. They were there also to focus on hiring veterans.

A company founded by Polish immigrants in 1917 who fought in World War I protecting American jobs, now we have the largest manufacturer of chain in North America, the fourth largest in the world, producing good American jobs by veterans and stamping those crates that go over to Asia with "Made in America" with a big American flag.

That's our job creation policy. That's what America can be, and that's what going forward means instead of turning back to disastrous policies that outsource those jobs.

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JOBS

(Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Well, Madam Speaker, here we go again. Today and every day in this Chamber my Republican colleagues stand here and blame Democrats for failing to create jobs. What nerve they have when they haven't voted for one jobs bill for the American workers.

Right now, Senate Republicans, just like their House colleagues, are blocking the passage of five critical bills that would create at least 1.5 million jobs for the American people, and House Republicans have the audacity to accuse Democrats of not doing enough to create jobs? Shame on them.

I urge Republican Senators to vote for the America COMPETES Act, the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act, the Jobs For Main Street Act and the Small Business and Infrastructure Act to provide desperately needed jobs. If Republicans are really serious about job creation, then they'd urge their colleagues in the Senate to take immediate action and pass these bills.

Madam Speaker, it's been 186 days since we passed our first jobs bill and still they haven't acted. It's time for Senate Republicans to act, write a paycheck to the American people, and finish the job that House Democrats started.

LET'S PUT AMERICA BACK TO WORK

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, this Democratic Congress, with our President, has begun to turn around the terrible job situation we inherited. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is working. Can you imagine where we would be without it? Private-sector employment has increased for 6 straight months, 35 percent of household wealth lost in the Bush administration has been recovered. Finally, the Senate overcame Republican objections and extended unemployment to help tide millions of people through these tough times. But that is not enough.

The American people need jobs. My community needs jobs. While unemployment overall has improved, there are too many communities which still have double-digit unemployment, and African Americans and young people are the hardest hit.

So to the other party on the other side of the Capitol: Pass the small business bill to fuel the engine of our economy, now. Pass funding we have included for youth jobs, now. Pass funding to keep teachers in our classrooms and policemen on our streets, now. Pass funding for black farmers, now.

This country thrives or falters on the strength of our working men and

women. Senate Republicans: forget politics. Let's put America back to work.

THE DEFICIT

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, you listen to the rhetoric in this hall and you hear a lot of talk from the folks on the other side of the aisle, the Republicans, about the deficit. It's very simple. There are two ways you deal with the deficit. Number one, you reduce spending or, number two, you increase income, and the way you increase income is you have more tax revenue. The two biggest ways you can get more tax revenue is taxing the most wealthy people in the country who can afford it.

The Republicans don't want to eliminate the tax cuts to the upper 1 and 2 percent of the population, people making over \$250,000 a year, and they don't want require that to be a PAYGO. They just want those people to keep getting those tax breaks that were reduced 8 years ago. They're concerned about the inheritance tax, people that might inherit over \$3.5 million a person. They're concerned about them. That's who they're concerned about, not middle class families who got the largest tax cut in history with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that not a Republican voted for. It was a Democratic bill, and the balanced budget under the Clinton years, all Democrats, a balanced budget.

So if you want to reduce deficits, you need to support the Democrats who do the hard lifting and see that we have revenue as well as responsible spending.

VOTE "NO" ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, less than a month ago, Congress finally began the debate on the war in Afghanistan that really should have been held 9 years ago, but the fact remains Congress cannot continue to write a blank check for a war in Afghanistan that has ultimately made our country less safe. Our brave men and women in uniform have been put in an impossible situation in Afghanistan where there is no military solution. We should use this money to bring them home.

The Congressional Black Caucus included in the previous supplemental that the House passed the black farmer settlement and youth employment provisions, and in the supplemental it was passed several times. It was paid for, yet the Senate took these provisions out.

Let's support jobs and justice for the black farmers who have waited so long